

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICE 00412 091033Z

22

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SYE-00 SSO-00 /033 W

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O 090821Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL NICE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1174

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS NICE 412

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : ASEC, FR

SUBJECT : ARMED ROBBERY AT P.O.'S RESIDENCE

1. AT 2.45 AM SEPTEMBER 9TH, THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND WIFE WERE WOKEN BY TWO ARMED BANDITS WHO HAD ENTERED THEIR BEDROOM FOLLOWING A SYSTEMATIC SEARCH OF THE RESIDENCE. POLICE ESTIMATE THAT THE TWO MUST HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE AT LEAST AN HOUR PRIOR TO WAKING THE MURPHYS. THEY WERE MENACED AND HELD AT GUNPOINT FOR HALF HOUR WHILE THE TWO MEN SEARCHED AND ROBBED THEIR QUARTERS.

2. AT TIME OF ROBBERY, THERE WAS TOTAL OF FIVE ADULTS AND FOUR CHILDREN IN HOME. NO ONE WAS INJURED AND ONLY PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND WIFE WERE THREATENED WITH BANDITS' PISTOL. PRIOR TO WAKING THEM, THE BANDITS CUT THE TELEPHONE LINES. POLICE HAVE DISCOVERED THAT THE TWO ARRIVED AT RESIDENCE IN STOLEN AUTOMOBILE WHICH THEY ABANDONED IN FRONT OF HOUSE FOLLOWING THE THEFT.

3. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT JEWELRY AND SILVER TOTALING APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 1,500 WAS STOLEN AS WELL AS DOLLARS 200 IN CASH. AMONG THE DOCUMENTATION STOLEN WAS PRINCIPAL OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT OF STATE IDENTITY CARD (DEPT. PLEASE NOTE). AFTER BANDITS HAD THOROUGHLY COMBED MASTER BEDROOM, THEY INSISTED PRINCIPAL OFFICER DRESS AND ACCOMPANY THEM TO CONSULATE IN ORDER TO OPEN SAFES.

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AFTER MORE THAN TWENTY MINUTES OF CONVERSATION, THEY WERE

CONVINCED THAT THE CONSULATE WAS SO WELL LIT AT NIGHT IN ADDITION TO THERE BEING CONSTANT POLICE SURVEILLANCE, THAT THEY WOULD NEVER GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING SO FOOLISH. AT THAT POINT, THE BANDITS LEFT THE RESIDENCE.

4. THE VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-MER AND NICE POLICE WERE IMMEDIATELY ALERTED AND, WITHIN TWENTY MINUTES OF THE THIEVES' DEPARTURE, ARRIVED AT THE RESIDENCE. MR. ALBERT MOUREY, COMMISSAIRE DIVISIONNAIRE OF THE POLICE JUDICIAIRE OF NICE IS DIRECTING THE INVESTIGATION OF THE BURGLARY. DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INVESTIGATION.
MURPHY

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